

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4461

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 1174

LIMDIS

FOR AF ASST. SEC. MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, KE

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF KENYAN DELEGATION

1. LONG EXPECTED VISIT HAS NOW BEEN PROPOSED. I WAS CALLED TO FOREIGN OFFICE THIS MORNING TO SEE PERMSEC NGANGA, WHO INFORMED ME HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO SEND HIGH RANKING DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON LATTER HALF OF FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN HORN AND KENYA'S DEFENSE NEEDS.

2. DELEGATION WOULD BE LED BY VICE PRESIDENT MOI AND WOULD INCLUDE FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI, ATTORNEY GENERAL NJONJO, AND MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING KIBAKI, AS WELL AS THREE OR FOUR PERMANENT SECRETARIES, AMONG WHOM I WOULD EXPECT KIEREINI OF DEFENCE.

3. NGANGA SAID GOK FELT IT ESSENTIAL TO MAKE DIRECT PRESENTATION TO USG ON KENYAN VIEWS OF SITUATION IN HORN, PARTICULARLY SINCE HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT OF ETHIOPIA PUT KENYA ON SAME SIDE AS SOVIETS. RECOGNIZING US SENSITIVITY TO SOVIET PRESENCE IN HORN, KENYA WANTED TO ENSURE THAT ITS POSITION WAS
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UNDERSTOOD.

4. IN RESPONSE TO MY EXPRESSED HOPE THAT KENYA AND SOMALIA COULD FIND ACCOMMODATION (REF. STATE 017282), NGANGA SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE ONLY IF SOMALIA PUBLICLY AND PERMANENTLY RENOUNCED ITS "CLAID" ON KENYA'S NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE. I ASSURED HIM THAT THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZED

THIS INDISPENSABLE CONDITION.

5. NGANGA WAS NOT SPECIFIC ABOUT WHAT KENYA'S DEFENSE "NEEDS" MIGHT ENTAIL.

6. VICE PRESIDENT MOI WILL BE CARRYING PERSONAL LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM PRESIDENT KENYATTA. GIVEN THE KENYANS' BELIEF THAT SOMALIS HAVE ENJOYED FREQUENT ACCESS TO HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS IN USG, I HOPE THAT IT CAN BE ARRANGED FOR MOI TO DELIVER LETTER DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT CARTER. IT WILL ALSO BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT KENYAN DELEGATION BE RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY. OTHER APPOINTMENTS SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE ARRANGED WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE, DICK POST, AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

7. I STRESS THAT IT IS, I AM CONVINCED, OF GENUINE IMPORTANCE TO US-KENYAN RELATIONS THAT THIS DELEGATION BE GIVEN AN APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL RECEPTION. AS WE HAVE EMPHASIZED SO OFTEN IN THE PAST, KENYA HAS NEVER FAILED TO ACCEDE TO OUR REQUEST FOR STRATEGIC ACCESS. JUST THIS WEEK TWO SATELITE TRACKING FLIGHTS FROM THE 4950TH TEST WING OF THE AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND WILL BE STAGED THROUGH NAIROBI, WITH AT LEAST FOUR OTHER FLIGHTS THROUGH LATER ON THIS SPRING. WE HAVE, IN ADDITION, REQUESTED KENYAN APPROVAL FOR SCIENTIFIC P-3 FLIGHTS, WHICH WE HAVE NO DOUBT WILL BE GRANTED.

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8. KENYA LOOKS UPON THE UNITED STATES AS AN ALLY, AND IT WOULD SIMPLY NOT DO FOR THIS DELEGATION TO RECEIVE ANYTHING BUT THE MOST SERIOUS ATTENTION. KENYA HAS MADE VERY FEW DEMANDS UPON THE UNITED STATES FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT. WE MUST NOT FAIL TO SEE THIS ONE IS HONORED.

9. AS FAR AS I COULD GATHER, KENYAN SCHEDULE IS RELATIVELY FLEXIBLE, WITHIN TIMEFRAME CITED. I WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S INVESTIGATING AVAILABILITY OF PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY AND REPLYING WITH PROPOSED SCHEDULE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

10. AS I WAS INTENDING TO RETURN TO THE US FOR CONSULTATIONS THE LAST WEEK IN FEBRUARY IN ANY CASE, I WOULD PLAN TO ALTER MY SCHEDULE AS NECESSARY TO BE IN WASHINGTON AT THE SAME TIME AS DELEGATION, IF DEPARTMENT FEELS MY PRESENCE DESIRABLE.

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